

Prep Baseball Opens Here Tuesday

Vikings Keep Record Clean at El Camino

Much to the surprise of no one, the Long Beach Vikings sailed into the El Camino gymnasium Saturday night, staged a first-class demonstration of the game of basketball, then went home to count scalps.

Added to their trophy belt was the scalp of the El Camino Warriors who put up only token forces to battle the invaders before losing the skirmish 44-65.

For the Warriors it was the fourth conference defeat of the season against five wins. For the Vikings, it was the ninth conference win without a defeat.

Guard Alan Herring poured in half of the El Camino points with 22 for the evening. Forward Bill Baron, getting his first starting assignment with the Tribe, potted 12.

Started Early
Long Beach started early and had piled up an 11-3 lead at the end of the first quarter. By the end of the first half, the Vikings were leading by 25 to 10.

In other Metropolitan Conference games Saturday night, the Santa Monica Corsairs were dumped by the East Los Angeles Huskies in a 70-69 thriller. It was the second win of the season for the Huskies.

San Diego took the Harbor Seahawks into camp with a 77-73 win. It was the sixth loss for Harbor, the fifth win for San Diego.

Scoring subs: Long Beach—Cook, 8; Miller, 2; El Camino—Rose, 2; Santa Monica (69) ...
Sutherland (2) F Stellino (5)
Mitchell (24) F Baron (12)
Hendrickson (6) C Boone (2)
Blake (17) G Herring (22)
Slip (9) G ...
Halftime—Long Beach, 25; El Camino, 10.

Scoring subs: Santa Monica—Brown, 8; Green, 9; East LA—Britt, 3; San Diego (77) ...
Arnstrong (13) F Parish (2)
Newport (20) F Coagrove (10)
Doughty (11) F Kuebel (22)
Gilbert (31) G Gimenez (16)
Buechler (11) G Hammond (8)
Halftime—San Diego, 38; Harbor, 33.

Scoring subs: San Diego—Smith, 1; Harbor—Lomack, 12; Strong, 2.

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BATTERY CHARGER ... Lining up his potential batters for Tuesday's opening game against Bellflower is Coach Dick Leech, mentor of the Torrance High baseball squad.

Checking signals, left to right, are Catcher Joe Kasko, Pitcher Gary Hakansen, Leech, and Catcher Al Roberts. Standing are Pitchers Lody Popovich, Manuel Olloque, and Tommy Mills.

Tartar Nine Opens Season Here Tuesday

A full-fledged intra-squad game Tuesday had Coach Dick Leech feeling a little optimistic about his 1953 baseball chances for Torrance High.

The Tartars will open the practice season next Tuesday when Bellflower comes to town for the 3 p.m. game.

Leech said yesterday that he would probably try out his entire pitching staff as well as a lot of the other talent that has turned up on the diamond this spring.

Veteran Lody Popovich will probably get the starting assignment on the mound, the coach said. He emphasized, however, that he wasn't being tabbed as the No. 1 pitcher yet by the move. Also slated to see action on the mound during the first game will be Freshman Tommy Mills, Manuel Olloque, and Gary Hakansen.

Catchers Named
Catchers will probably be Al Roberts and Joe Kasko. Holding down the first base spot will be Joe White, who is learning to set-out-chin way out for them; and Captain Jim Murphy will receive the keystone assignment.

The Torrance varsity has a 20-game schedule ahead of it. Following the Tuesday opener, Culver City will visit here on Thursday, Feb. 19. Games every Tuesday and Thursday will follow until the first league game here against Leuzinger on March 19.

All junior varsity games set up in the tentative schedule earlier this year have been canceled.

TORRANCE HERALD

Sports

Wildcats Skin Lions to Keep Ahead of Pack

The Wildcats—undefeated in four starts—continued to pour it on Saturday as they downed the Lions 62-25 in the Boys Grade School cage league.

And, to keep them on their way, they will meet the winless Greens in Saturday's opener at 10 a.m. at the girls gym at the high school.

In other games last Saturday, the Streets dropped the Greens for their fourth loss by a score of 49-39, the Nativity quintet beat the Bruins 34-25, and the Panthers clawed the bejanders out of the Cubs with a 52-24 trouncing.

Nativity's win over the Bruins was their first for the season, and it was the Bruins' first loss. Following the Wildcat-Green's game Saturday will be the Bruins vs. Streets at 11 a.m., the Cubs vs. Nativity at 1 p.m., and the Panthers vs. Lions at 2 p.m.

Seasonwise, the Wildcats have a 4-0 record, the Bruins and Streets a 3-1, the Lions and Panthers a 2-2, the Cubs and Nativity a 1-3, and the Greens an 0-4 record.

The results of Monday's visit were very gratifying, the chairman agreed.

During the October visit of the mobile blood collecting unit, the Red Cross anticipated donations of 300 pints and received only 171 pints, it was recalled.

Additional Sports
On Pages 7 - 9

Standings

METROPOLITAN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Long Beach	3	0	1.000
Bakersfield	3	3	.667
El Camino	5	4	.556
San Diego	5	4	.556
Santa Monica	4	5	.444
Harbor	3	6	.333
Valley	7	2	.778
East L. A.	2	7	.222

MARINE LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Jordan	5	2	.714
San Pedro	5	2	.714
Banning	5	3	.625
Narbonne	4	3	.571
Gardena	1	6	.143
Westchester	1	6	.143

"A" LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Fenwick's Shoes	5	1	.833
Lee's Banner Drugs	5	1	.833
Redondo Eagles	5	1	.833
Manhattan Beach All Stars	2	4	.333
Hot 'N' Tot	0	6	.000

Bay League Cage Five Renew War

Play in the Bay League basketball race resumed after a lay-off yesterday afternoon as Redondo traveled over to Beverly Hills and Santa Monica visited Leuzinger.

Torrance cagers will get back into the act tomorrow night with a return engagement at Redondo Beach against the league-leading Seahawks. At the same time, Leuzinger will be at Inglewood, Beverly Hills at Santa Monica.

The once-beaten Redondo Seahawks still look like the team to beat for the league championship. Their only defeat was suffered at the hands of Inglewood, who lost games to Torrance, Leuzinger, and Santa Monica.

Twice beaten Beverly Hills could have tied up the league in its game with Redondo yesterday evening. Redondo won the first encounter with the Normans 66-43 on the Redondo court.

Have Hands Full
Coach Rex Welch's Tartars will have their hands full for the season just keeping from being the bottom team when the race is over. With one win despite the attempt of at least four newspapers to credit them

with another), the Tartars hold no threat to any of the title contenders.

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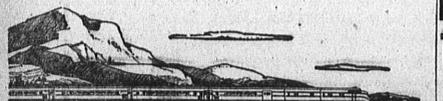
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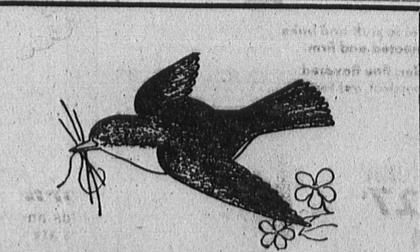
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